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GREETINGS FROM TORRANCE

Three foreign scholarship students who will soon be leaving Torrance again for their native lands were honored by the City Council recently when they received resolutions of commendation. Receiving them from Mayor Albert Isten are (l-r) Arno Mehling (Germany), Gloria Montesinos (Spain) and Adriaan Willemsen (Holland). Seated are (l-r) Councilmen Nick Dale, Victor Benstead, Bob Jahn, and Willys Blount. The mayors of the respective cities in which the students live will also receive copies —Press Photo

Foreign Students Will Leave 'Home' To Return to Homes Across the Seas

By Norale Benedict

"The American Field Service Scholarships are creating understanding and friendship not only between the United States and foreign countries, but also between one foreign country and another. We have seen students from countries which had previously been engaged in war and bitter hatred, form deep and lasting friendships. This way, lies not merely good relations between the United States and foreign countries, but also, eventually, world peace."

This was the thought expressed by three wonderful young people who have spent this school year in Torrance, Gloria Montesinos from Madrid, Spain; Arno Mehling from Wurtzburg, Germany; and Arny Willemsen from the Hague, Holland.

The three scholarship students are preparing to return to their own countries this month. Through a series of speeches before almost every PTA and service club, they have become well-known to Torrance residents. Only a few months ago they came to the United States for the first time. At first they were bewildered and very conscious of their duty to say and do the right thing as ambassadors of their countries.

Now they are relaxed and at home, for they found that Torrance residents do not sit back and judge others, they are too busy liking people and trying to make them happy. In this, Torrance residents succeeded.

Wonderful People
Gloria, Arny, and Arno each spoke regretfully of the wonderful people they would have to leave behind them. When they first came, they were impressed by the universal

luxuries and air of plenty in America, but when they were asked what things they would miss, it was not the luxuries, it was the people they had met and grown to love.

Gloria has been living with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lane and Arno has been living with Mr. and Mrs. John Melville. They have attended Torrance high school this year. Arny has been living with Mr. and Mrs. Francis Stoeckle and has attended North Torrance high school.

The three have been active members of numerous school clubs and the boys have won letters in sports.

They have made so many close friends that the sale of postage stamps will hit an all-time high when they begin writing letters from their various homes.

Gloria was, at first, quite embarrassed over the farewell speech which she almost gave at the going-away party held for the students at the YWCA recently.

Time for Tears
"After months of experience in making speeches," she said, "I got up to tell everyone good-bye, and I burst into tears. I felt so awful about it, but then I thought it over and I decided that it was not bad to cry, the bad thing would have been not to want to cry at having to

leave my friends. And I knew that they would understand that it was not because I was a bad speaker, but just because I love them so.

Gloria plans to take a secretarial course when she returns to Madrid, then get a position at the Air Base there as a secretary and interpreter, so that she can work with Americans.

Arno is making plans to contact the Americans stationed in Germany so that he can go on having American friends.

Arny will enter the army for two years, then go to executive training which will enable him to travel. "Then, someday," he said, "when I make enough money, I can come back and see my friends."

If one likes to hear gratitude expressed enthusiastically and with deep sincerity, one should talk to any of the three students. Their conversations are like love letters to the United States in general and Torrance in particular.

They feel that this year has meant so much to them in their future work and even more important, in developing their personalities and characters.

"I am somehow more serious," Gloria said. "Not so crazy," she added with a smile. "I understand people so much more," Arno said, "and I like

them better than I ever have before."

"I'm so much more secure with others," Arny said, "why, I'm almost poisoned."

One Problem

"There has been only one bad thing that happened to me," Gloria said as she made a difficult choice between ordering a coke or a glass of orange juice.

"I was told that in the United States I would always be hungry, because in Spain we eat four meals a day and here we eat only three. And now, after just a few months, I not only did not starve, but I've gained 23 pounds! My parents won't even know me," she laughed.

Although it would amaze them to hear it, Torrance has appreciated having them here as much as they have appreciated being here.

The Torrance City Council passed a resolution praising the three students for their exemplary records and their success in bringing their countries closer to us in understanding and friendship.

Copies of the resolution have been presented to the students, their American "families," and will be sent to the governments of the three cities from which the students came.

This Miracle

To succeed in the work of world peace and brotherhood is an ideal which the American Field Service International Scholarships are making a reality each year.

Some of the service clubs in Torrance have contributed

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By LES KING



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money for this program and many individuals have donated every bit that they can.

The Hollywood Riviera Rotary club has set up a sustaining membership fund which will provide a set amount each year. The American Field Service representatives in Torrance hope that more clubs will follow this example, said Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Mosley, chairman.

It takes \$650 to bring each student over here for a year. The Field Service representatives work all summer long to get the money together.

We are certain that when the service clubs and private individuals in Torrance learn that money is needed for this tremendous work, they will waste no time in offering their donations.

World peace at any price would be worth it, the American Field Service is offering it at bargain rates.

Members of the American Field Service committee in Torrance include: Mr. and Mrs. Mosley, Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Graef, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Moon, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Nash, Mr.

and Mrs. A. C. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Bruffy, and Mrs. J. R. Allison. Others are: Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Schwab, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Sears, Mr. and Mrs. Grover Van Deventer, and Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Popovich.

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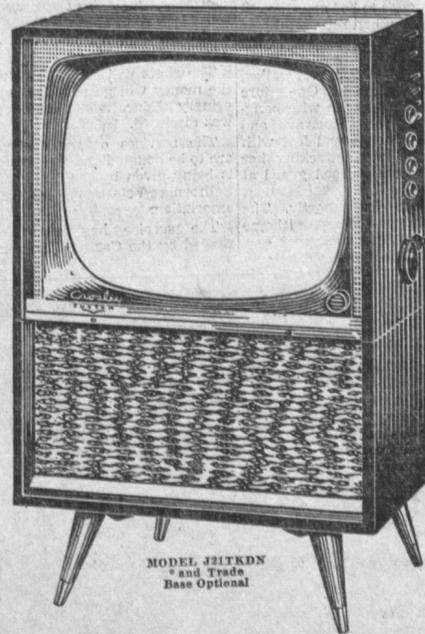
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